

REMARKS

Claims 2-13, 15, 16 and 18-28 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 19 and 20 are amended to overcome the Office Action's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and to even more clearly distinguish from the cited references. Support for the amendments of claims 19 and 20 can be found in Applicants' specification, for example, at page 11, line 24-page 14, line 11. No new matter is added by the amendments.

Examiner Gelagay is thanked for the courtesies extended Applicants' undersigned attorney at the June 24 personal interview. At the interview it was agreed that the above amendments overcome the rejections.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and make of record the information cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith.

II. All Pending Claims are Patentable

Claims 2-13, 15, 16 and 18-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph in eight separate rejections. Claims 19 and 20 have been amended to overcome the rejections. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4, 15, 16, 19-20, 24 and 26-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Russ (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0219127) in view of Saito (U.S. Patent No. 7,093,295) in view of Chiarabini (U.S. Patent No. 2004/0015687) and in view of Hutchison (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0145218). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Russ in view of Saito in view of Chiarabini in view of Hutchison fails to disclose or render obvious the combinations of features recited in independent claims 19 and 20. Russ, Saito, Chiarabini and Hutchison fail to disclose or render obvious the features "the deciding device decides that the decrypted data decrypted by the decryption module and the non-encrypted data is either to be printed without the encryption module encrypting the decrypted

data or the non-encrypted data, or to be store in the storage device, based on a job classification information of the decrypted data and the non-encrypted data, respectively" and "the deciding device decides that: the decrypted data decrypted by the decryption module is to be at least one of: i) stored in the storage device with the encryption module encrypting the decrypted data and (ii) stored in the storage device without the encryption module encrypting the decrypted data when the deciding device decides that the decrypted data is to be stored in the storage device, based on a storage time and a confidentiality of the decrypted data, and the non-encrypted data is to be at least one of: (i) stored in the storage device with the encryption module encrypting the non-encrypted data and (ii) stored in the storage device without the encryption module encrypting the decryption data when the deciding device decides that the non-encrypted data is to be stored in the storage device, based on a storage time and a confidentiality of the non-encrypted data" as recited in independent claim 19 and similarly recited in independent claim 20. Chiarabini only discloses printing input data in the encrypted form that needs to be decrypted. See paragraphs [0007], [0080] and Fig. 8. Chiarabini explicitly teaches only using data in an encrypted format to avoid data compromise and to prevent humans in the print service provider facility from making electronic copies. See paragraph [0080]. Chiarabini always uses encrypted data and does not base decisions to store the data on "a storage time and a confidentiality of the decrypted data/non-encrypted data."

In rejecting Applicants' claims, the Office Action alleges that Hutchison discloses storing data in the storage device with or without the encryption module encrypting the data. See Office Action page 8, last paragraph. However, Hutchison explicitly teaches that all image data, in whatever format, retained in the memory 50 is encrypted. See paragraph [0020] (especially the last sentence) and paragraph [0023] (especially the third sentence). Thus, claims 19 and 20 are patentable. Accordingly, claims 2-4, 15, 16, 24 and 26-27 also are

patentable by their dependence on claims 19 and 20 and for the separately patentable features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-13 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Russ in view of Saito in view of Chiarabini in view of Hutchison and further in view of Blakley (U.S. Patent No. 5,677,952). Blakley fails to overcome the deficiencies of Russ, Saito and Chiarabini explained above regarding claims 19 and 20. Thus, claims 5-13 and 18 are patentable by their dependence on claims 19 and 20 for at least the reasons explained above regarding claims 19 and 20 and for the separately patentable features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-23, 25 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Russ in view of Saito in view of Chiarabini in view of Hutchison and further in view of Foster (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0184518). Foster fails to overcome the deficiencies of Russ, Saito and Chiarabini explained above regarding claims 19 and 20. Thus, claims 21-23, 25 and 28 are patentable by their dependence on claims 19 and 20 for at least the reasons explained above regarding claims 19 and 20 and for the separately patentable features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: July 16, 2009

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